

Sinclair Broadcasting should not be allowed to force its affiliates to preempt programming to show what amounts to an anti-Kerry commercial dressed up as a documentary. Allowing them to do this at any time would be an atrocious abuse of the public airwaves, not just if it is shown days before the election.

Americans rely on the public media for entertainment and information. In a country where companies who use the public airwaves are obligated by law to serve the public interest, allowing any entity to mandate the stations air a biased, defamatory attack on a political candidate to the exclusion of all other programming, is an abuse of the public's trust, no matter which party he or she represents.

Sinclair's actions show why we need to strengthen media ownership rules, not weaken them. They show why the license renewal process needs to involve more than a returned postcard. Thank you.